Safeguards at missile stores

2736. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an accident has taken place when top officials of his Ministry were being shown anti-tank missiles and one of them exploded in Bharat Dynamics Ltd. at Hyderabad in January, 2001.

(b) if so, whether this is the first accident in the 28 years history of BDL (A defence Sector Undertaking) and sole manufacturer of missiles in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to implement the safeguards at the missiles stores and the production units of Akash, Prithvi and Trishul Missiles?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A Committee consisting of representatives of the BDL, Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), Director General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) and Defence Reserach and Development Organisation (DRDO) has been appointed to prepare a comprehensive Safety Manual for BDL.

Financial irregularities by a retired LT. General

† 2737. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding fraud and financial irregularities committed by a retired Lieutenant Genera! P.N. Hoon through Kagginder Construction Company Pvt, Ltd. sel up by him by misusing this former position in Tr.dian Army;

(b) if so, the comprehensive details of such complaints;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.